

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

NAVAL AIR STATION WHITING FIELD

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source is ground water from three (3) wells. The wells draw from the Sand and Gravel Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and fluoride for dental health purposes. Caustic Soda is added as a buffering agent and Aqua-Mag is also added as a means to reduce pipe degradation.

In 2015 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. The assessment was conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. There are two (2) potential sources of contamination identified for this system with moderate susceptibility levels. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp or they can be obtained from Mr. Jon Croci, Physical Scientist, Naval Air Station Whiting Field (NASWF), Public Works Department (850) 623-7026.

*If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Mr. Jon Croci, Physical Scientist, and NASWF Public Works Department (850) 623-7026.***

NAS Whiting Field routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. Data obtained before January 1, 2015, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar term and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: *The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.*

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: *The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*

Action Level (AL): *The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.*

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: *The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.*

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Not Detected (ND): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l): One part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): One part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

Million fibers per liter (MFL): Measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

2015 CONTAMINANTS TABLE

Microbiological Contaminants								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Number	MCLG	MCL		Likely Source of Contamination	
Total Coliform Bacteria	Jan-Dec 2015	Y	3	0	For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in 1 sample collected during a month.		Naturally present in the environment	
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)		MCL Violation Y/N	Total Number of Positive Samples for the Year		MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i> in the distribution system (positive samples)	Jan-Dec 2015		Y	3		0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Inorganic Contaminants								
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Arsenic (ppb)	Jul-15	N	0.4	ND-0.4	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	
Asbestos (MFL)	Jul-12	N	1	NA	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits	
Barium (ppm)	Jul-15	N	0.015	0.0065-0.015	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	Jul-15	N	0.81	0.47-0.81	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	Jul-15	N	1.10	0.42-1.10	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Selenium (ppb)	Jul-15	N	0.7	ND-0.7	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines	
Sodium (ppm)	Jul-15	N	41	28-41	NA	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil	

Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Dichloromethane (ppb)	Jan-Dec 15	N	0.04	ND-0.52	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) -Stage 1	Jan-Dec 15	N	0.63	0.45-0.77	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	Jul and Sept 15	N	1.58	0.87-1.58	NA	MCL=60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	Jul and Sept 15	N	7.9	3.74-7.9	NA	MCL=80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo. /yr.)	AL Exceeded Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-Sep 13	N	0.33	0 of 20	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	Jun-Sep 13	N	2.3	0 of 20	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Microbiological Contaminants:

- (1) Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other; potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
- (2) Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
- (3) The NASWF Water System had an MCL violation for Total coliform and E. coli bacteria in the month of April. For Total Coliform three samples tested positive; two more than is allowed by rule. In addition these same three samples tested positive for E. coli. These sample sites were immediately retested with all repeats testing negative (no bacteria present). The bacteriological sampling procedures for this system were reviewed and modified in hopes of ensuring compliance in the future.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. NAS Whiting Field is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

"We at NAS Whiting Field work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap," said Mr. Jon Croci. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. We at NAS Whiting Field would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.